

TWENTY YEAR REVIEW SOUTH AFRICA

1994 - 2014



THE PRESIDENCY
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



tribute

This Twenty Year Review is dedicated to the first
President of a democratic South Africa,
Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela

A soldier, a strategist, a statesman,
A son of the soil.
A prisoner, a president.
The fugitive, the friend, the father,
the forgiving freedom fighter.
A revolutionary, a reconciler
a herdsman, a hero
our leader
our legend.

Qhawe lamaqhawe
Akekho ofana nawe!
Lala uphumule ngoxolo
Tata Madiba
Siyohlala sikukhumbula njalo!

*tata
madiba*

The cover photo was captured on the second day when former President Nelson Mandela was lying in state at the Union Buildings.



PRESIDENTIAL FOREWORD

South Africa is a much better place to live in now than it was in 1994. Indeed, we have a good story to tell. As a country, we have made remarkable progress in dismantling the oppressive apartheid system and we have created a thriving constitutional democracy with well-functioning arms of state – a representative legislature, the executive and an independent judiciary.

Following the 1994 elections, recognised worldwide as free and fair and reflecting the will of the people of South Africa, Nelson Mandela took the oath at the Union Buildings and became the first black President of our country. As he indicated in his inaugural speech, this historic day marked the decisive end of the brutal apartheid era, with a promise of democratic freedom to the nation:

“Never, never and never again shall it be that this beautiful land will again experience the oppression of one by another and suffer the indignity of being the skunk of the world. Let freedom reign. The sun shall never set on so glorious a human achievement! God bless Africa!”

Almost 40 years earlier, on 26 June 1955, the Congress of the People had formally adopted the Freedom Charter, following wide consultation with hundreds of thousands of people about the South Africa they would like to live in. The Charter rejected the oppressive and exploitative apartheid system and called for a new order based on the will of the people. It boldly proclaimed that “South Africa belongs to all who live in it, black and white” and that one day “The People shall Govern”, thus laying the basis for democratic thinking that inspired and propelled the struggle for democracy for another four decades.

On 8 May 1996 all political parties in our democracy unanimously adopted a Constitution whose preamble encapsulated the belief that “South Africa belongs to all who live in it, united in our diversity”. Heralded as one of the most progressive in the world, our Constitution has sought to address many of the demands in the Freedom Charter.

As the supreme law of the country, the Constitution is built on a culture of reverence for human rights and an identity founded on the values of non-sexism, non-racialism and equality.

Democracy has brought freedom of movement and of association, the right to own property, freedom of expression and freedom of the press, the equality of women, religious freedom, workplace freedom and the right to strike and protest, all in an attempt to restore the human dignity that was stripped away from us in our colonial and apartheid past. Much has been done to address the systematic violence and land dispossession that was a characteristic feature of the apartheid era. Even more has been done to actively empower previously disadvantaged people through employment equity, affirmative action, and business empowerment.

One of the most active arenas of change has been to shift the programmes of the state towards the reconstruction and development of our country, with a particular focus on the poor and marginalised – to eliminate poverty and provide access to housing, water, electricity, sanitation, education, health, social protection support to the millions deprived of these basic rights under apartheid. Over time, we have received worldwide recognition for our work in tackling poverty.

New constitutional institutions have also been put in place, ensuring human rights, public protection, independent monetary policy and independent audit, among others. Simultaneously the economy has grown from an average of about 1.5% per annum in the run-up to democracy to over 3% per annum on average in the democratic era.

Despite this remarkable progress, much more still needs to be done to address poverty, unemployment and inequality. Following our proud tradition of unity in action, we must continue to plan and act to work together as a nation, to address these three key challenges. Akin to the Freedom Charter process in democratic approach and magnitude, South Africa's long-term National Development Plan (NDP) has received thousands of inputs and submissions from across the full spectrum of society over an extensive period of consultation during the current term of office. The plan has been completed and adopted by all major political parties in South Africa. In its conception and consultation, the NDP carries the hopes and dreams of all South Africans from all persuasions, for a better life and outlines a broad plan and our vision for the South Africa of 2030.

The Twenty Year Review does not duplicate the country's long-term plan. Instead it reviews government's performance through a 20-year lens, elaborating on the achievements and progress made in the democratic era, and painting a picture of the journey we have travelled in getting where we are today. It is honest and frank in its approach and it identifies problems we have encountered along the way, shortcomings and remaining challenges. The Review also points out how, over time, we have proactively sought to address problems and work towards the realisation of the strategic objectives we set for ourselves. The Twenty Year Review will be used to inform and shape our initiatives and operational plans going forward, as we give effect to the long-term NDP in an effort to achieve by 2030, the South Africa that we had envisioned when we all first voted in 1994.



H.E. President JG Zuma
President of the Republic of South Africa

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The Presidency is delighted to publish the Twenty Year Review on how South Africa has progressed since we first attained democracy in 1994.

The Presidency would like to extend its gratitude to the members of the Inter-Ministerial Committee for the Twenty Year Review and to Cabinet as a whole for the political oversight and guidance provided throughout the compilation of this document. The Review also draws on inputs from national departments, all nine provinces as well as the South African Local Government Association, and we wish to thank them for their valuable inputs. I wish to thank the Director-General in the Presidency, Dr Cassius Lubisi, for his technical oversight of the process, as well as the Director-General of the Department of Performance Monitoring and Evaluation, Dr Sean Phillips, for his management of the drafting process. My gratitude also goes out to all the officials in the Offices of the President and the Deputy President, the Department of Performance Monitoring and Evaluation, the National Planning Commission Secretariat and in many other government departments who contributed to the production of this document.

A range of stakeholders, including academic and research institutions, civil society organisations and the business community, actively participated in 20 roundtable discussions that we hosted as part of the process. The reflections and discussions we had in these roundtable discussions have significantly enriched the document.



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GLOSSARY

AU	African Union
B-BBEE	broad-based black economic empowerment
CGE	Commission for Gender Equality
CODESA	Convention for a Democratic South Africa
COP17	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
ECD	early childhood development
EPWP	Expanded Public Works Programme
EU	European Union
FDI	Foreign direct investment
FET	further education and training
G8	Group of Eight countries – Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States.
G20	Group of 20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors
GDP	gross domestic product
IPAP	Industrial Policy Action Plan
JCPS	Justice crime prevention and security cluster
LSM	Living standards measure
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
NDP	National Development Plan
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa’s Development
NGO	non-governmental organisation
NPA	National Prosecuting Authority
OECD	Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development
PRASA	Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa
R&D	research and development
RDP	Reconstruction and Development Programme
SACU	Southern African Customs Union
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SAHRC	South African Human Rights Commission
SANRAL	South African National Roads Agency
SMME	small, medium and micro enterprise
TRC	Truth and Reconciliation Commission

ABBREVIATIONS

mm	millimetres
MW	Megawatt
MVA	Megavolt amperes
mt	Million tons
GW	gigawatts

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